



PATENT APPLICATION  
Q-79840

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean BOULET

Appln. No. 10/777,768

Group Art Unit: 3672

Confirmation No.: 2968

Examiner: NOT YET KNOWN

Filed: February 13, 2004

For: DRILL STRING ELEMENT HAVING AT LEAST ONE BEARING ZONE, A DRILL STRING, AND A TOOL JOINT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

Copies of the FR '104; FR '438 and FR '783 references, cited on the Form PTO/SB/08 A & B are enclosed. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), the undersigned is not submitting a copy of the cited U.S. patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/777,768

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a counterpart French Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the French Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 14, 2005

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO			Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	10:777,768
			Confirmation Number	2968
			Filing Date	February 13, 2004
			First Named Inventor	Jean BOULET
			Art Unit	3672
			Examiner Name	NOT YET KNOWN
Sheet	1	of	Attorney Docket Number	Q-79840

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,223,840	B1	5/1/2001	George SWIETLIK

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		FR	2 824 104	A1	10/31/2002	SMF INTERNATIONAL	
		FR	2 789 438	A1	8/11/2000	SMF INTERNATIONAL	
		FR	2 760 783	A1	9/18/1998	SMF INTERNATIONAL	

## OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is indicate here if English language Translation is attached.